Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: AL/MS/FL

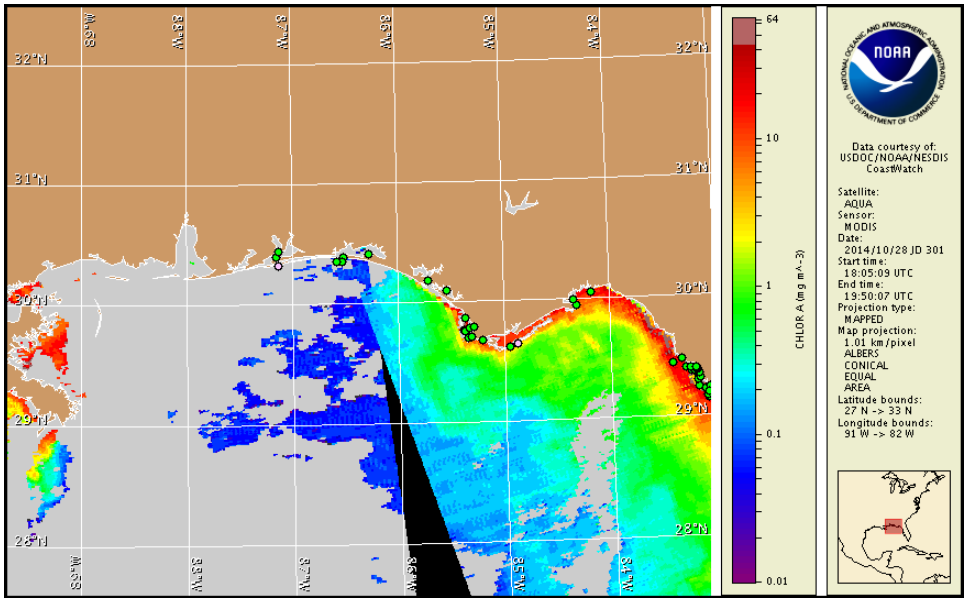
Thursday, 30 October 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, October 27, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from October 20 to 29: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information for Florida can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at: http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. No respiratory irritation is expected Thursday, October 30 through Monday, November 3.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations. Visit http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/#swfl for the most recent southwest Florida conditions report.

Analysis

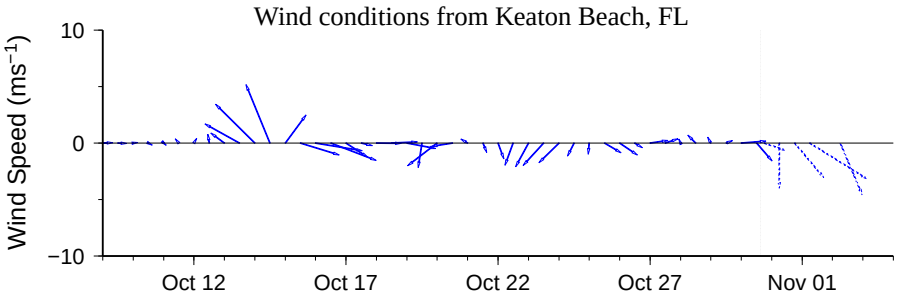
Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. In Franklin County, one background concentration was detected alongshore the gulf side of St. George Island (FWRI; 10/27). All other samples over the past week alongshore and in the bay regions of Bay, Gulf and Wakulla counties, and offshore Okaloosa County, indicated *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI; 10/23-10/27). No fish kills or respiratory irritation associated with *K. brevis* have been reported along the coast of northwest Florida over the past few days (MML; 10/27-10/30).

In recent MODIS Aqua imagery from 10/28 (shown left), patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20μg/L) are visible along- and offshore northwest Florida from Gulf to Taylor counties. Anomalously high chlorophyll is visible alongshore from Wakulla to Taylor County. A patch of anomalously high chlorophyll is also visible 12 miles offshore Franklin and Wakulla counties extending up to 40 miles offshore. Due to the optical characteristics that are typical in the area, elevated chlorophyll is not necessarily indicative of the presence of *K. brevis*, and some elevated chlorophyll may also be due to various algal species that have been reported throughout the region as well as the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

North to northwest winds forecasted today through Saturday may promote southerly transport of *K. brevis* concentrations.

Davis, Urízar

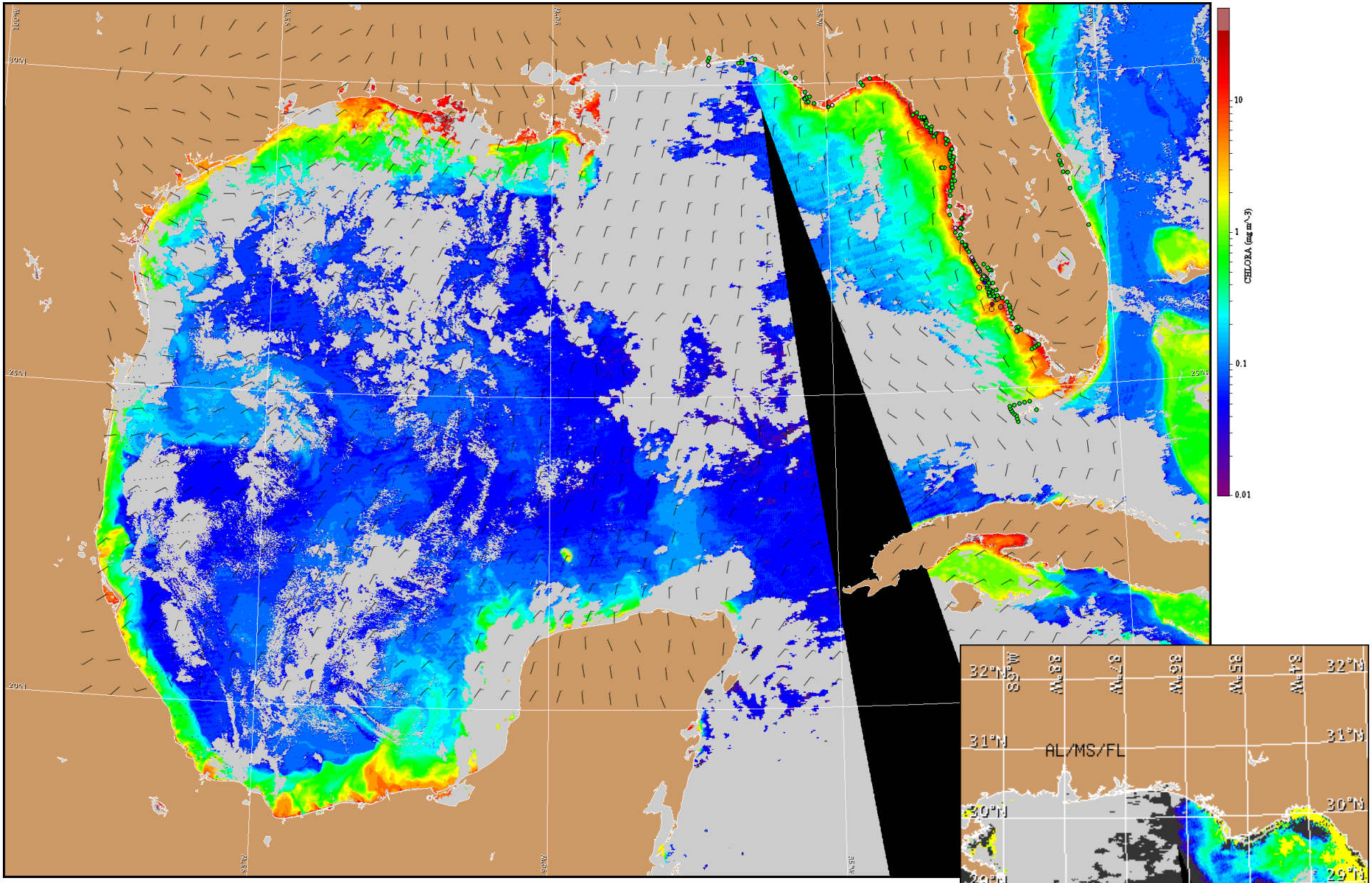
To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html



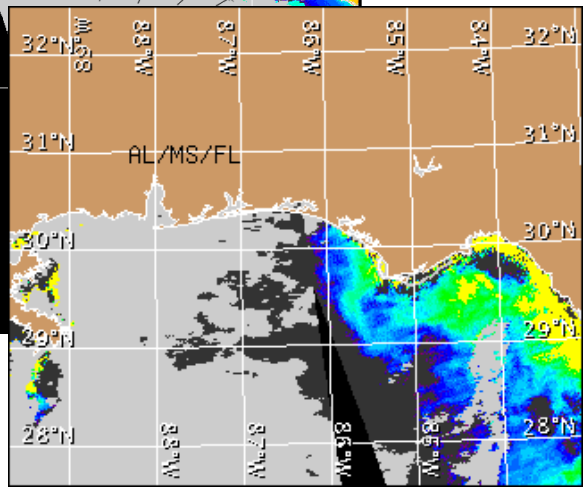
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Escambia to Taylor counties: North to northwest winds (10-25kn, 5-13m/s) today through Saturday. Northeast to east winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Sunday through Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 31, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from October 20 to 29: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).